Special contributory insurance scheme for weavers

210. SHRI SUDARSHAN AKARAPU: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state the details of special contributory insurance scheme for weavers and when will the group insurance scheme be launched?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL): The Hon'ble Prime Minister, in his Independence Day address to the Nation on the 15th August, 2002, had announced the introduction of a special contributory insurance scheme for one million weavers and artisans combining the Janshree Bima Yojana administered by the Life Insurance Corporation of India with Group Insurance Scheme. Accordingly in the Weavers' Welfare Scheme, a component called "Bunkar 'Bima Yojana' combining the Janshree Bima Yojana of the Life Insurance Corporation of India and the Group Insurance Scheme has been included and the draft scheme has been sent to the Planning Commission as per requirement. The scheme is for implementation during the Tenth Five Year Plan.

Revival of NTC and its subsidiary units

211. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to bring NTC under the disinvestment scheme;

(b) if not, whether the Central Government has granted a revival package for it and its subsidiary units;

(c) what is the amount of the revival package for NTC and its subsidiary units; and

(d) whether the subsidiary units under the NTC are expected to be revived under the same package?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Attempts have already been made in the past under the ageis of BIFR for their revival in private sector which did not evoke any concrete response. Thereafter, Rehabilitation Schemes have been sanctioned by BIFR/Government

involving revival of 53 viable units and closure of the balance 66 unviable mills after giving VRS to workers.

(c) The approximate cost of revival package for NTC is Rs. 3,937 crores.

(d) As per the rehabilitation schemes prepared by the Implementing Agencies (IDBI/IFCI) and approved by BIFR, net worth of these companies would become positive within ten years from the date of implementation of the package.

Defiance of Doha Ministerial decision by the US

212. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to US defiance of Doha Ministerial decision to accelerate elimination of quota curbs on textile imports in favour of the developing countries would suffer a loss of $ US 100 million a year in textile exports till 2005;

(b) if so, what steps the Ministry is taking either through diplomatic or other channels to convince the US to accept the decision taken in Doha;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the US and the EU are demanding of India to reduce duties on textiles and cloth products; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI BASANGOUDA R. PATIL): (a) Doha Ministerial Conference had mandated an examination by the WTO's Council for Trade in Goods of two implementation proposals relating to the Agreement on Textiles and Clothing (ATC) for recommending appropriate action by 31st July, 2002. The first proposal relates to calculating the quota levels for small suppliers for the remaining years of the ATC using the most favourable methodology available in respect of those members under the growth provisions. Acceptance of the second implementation tirets requiring members to calculate the quota levels for the remaining years of the Agreement as if implementation of growth on growth provision for the third stage had been